

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-13 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-20

AID-20 RSR-01 /172 W

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R 311638Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3696

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 09999

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN, PK, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH COMMENTS ON NEW DELHI AGREEMENT

SUMMARY: BRITISH THINK PAKS HAVE TAKEN A CHANCE ON WAR CRIMES ISSUE BUT HAVE AT LEAST TACIT INDIAN AGREEMENT TO COOPERATE IN AVOIDANCE OF TRIALS. FCO IS BEGINNING TO THINK OF FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION UK AND OTHERS MAY BE ASKED TO MAKE TO POPULATION EXCHANGES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREEMENT. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON LATTER QUESTION AS USG POSITION DEVELOPS. END SUMMARY

1. FCO HAS NOW RECEIVED PRELIMINARY POST COMMENTS TO AGREEMENT. WHILE INDIANS HAVE BEEN EVASIVE AS TO ANY TACIT UNDERTAKING REGARDING WAR CRIMES TRIALS OF 195 POW'S, PAKISTANIS HAVE TOLD BRITISH THAT INDIANS HAVE AGREED TO USE THEIR BEST ENDEAVORS WITH BANGLADESH AGAINST ANY TRIALS. (WE NOTE THAT BHUTTO HAS ALREADY TAKEN STEPS TO PUBLICIZE HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT WAR
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CRIMES TRIALS ISSUE HAS BEEN SETTLED, IN INTERVIEW GIVEN

TO "GUARDIAN'S" SCHWARZ, REPORTED LONDON 9963).

2. BRITISH SPECULATE THAT AGREEMENT MADE POSSIBLE AT LAST MINUTE BECAUSE PAKS DECIDED TO RISK TRUSTING INDIANS (AND THEIR OWN DIPLOMATIC SKILLS IN FUTURE) ON WAR CRIMES ISSUE.

3. NEXT QUESTION IN FCO WORKING-LEVEL EYES IS ROLE UK AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS SUCH AS US WILL BE ASKED TO PLAY IN IMPLEMENTING POPULATION TRANSFERS CALLED FOR BY AGREEMENT. BRITISH HAVE RECEIVED NO FORMAL REQUESTS AND HAVE NOT SET FORMAL HMG MACHINERY INTO ACTION, BUT FCO OFFICERS SPECULATE THAT UK WILL BE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE. THEY ALSO SPECULATE HMG WILL IN THAT CASE BE FORTHCOMING.

4. AN ELEMENT IN THIS SPECULATION IS PM HEATH'S PERSONAL INTEREST IN SUBCONTINENT, WHICH HAS BEEN HEIGHTENED BY PERSONAL CONTACT WITH AREA'S LEADERS AND CORRESPONDENCE WITH THEM OVER PAST YEAR.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. WE WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING DEPARTMENT'S THOUGHTS ON LIKELIHOOD AND EXTENT OF USG CONTRIBUTION TO AGREEMENT'S IMPLEMENTATION AS USG POSITION DEVELOPS.

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30 JUN 2005

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